

## SENATE BILL NO. 484

INTRODUCED BY S. GALLUS

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING BENEFITS UNDER THE FIREFIGHTERS' UNIFIED RETIREMENT SYSTEM; INCREASING THE BENEFIT FOR FIREFIGHTERS WITH 25 YEARS OR MORE OF SERVICE; AMENDING SECTION 19-13-704, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 19-13-704, MCA, is amended to read:

**"19-13-704. Amount of service retirement benefit.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), a member who retires with at least 5 years of membership service must receive a service retirement benefit equal to 2.5% of the member's final average compensation for each year of service credit.

(2) A member hired before July 1, 1981, who does not elect to be covered under 19-13-1010 is entitled to the greater of:

(a) the benefit provided under subsection (1); or

(b) (i) if the member retires with less than 20 years of membership service, a benefit equal to 2% of the member's final monthly compensation for each year of service; or

(ii) if the member retires with 20 or more years of membership service, a benefit equal to 50% of the member's final monthly compensation plus 2% of the member's final monthly compensation for each year of service over 20 years.

(3) A member who retires on or after [the effective date of this act] with 25 years or more of membership service must receive a service retirement benefit equal to 3% of the member's final average compensation for each year of service credit.

~~(3)~~(4) Upon a retired member's death, the benefit must be made to the surviving spouse. If there is no surviving spouse or if the surviving spouse dies and if the member leaves one or more dependent children, the children are entitled to receive the benefit as long as they remain dependent children as defined in 19-13-104."

**NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2005.

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